

# **HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

## **Environmental Review:**

Your project is subject to all federal, state, and local laws. NEPA is the established environmental policy for the nation. This policy ensures that the environment is considered in all federal actions. NEPA requires that federal agencies consider the effects of their proposed actions and alternatives on the human environment before deciding to fund and implement the action. The law requires a decision making process and not a specific outcome.

Almost all federal actions are subject to NEPA review.

- A. Any environmental information related to the project area should be included as there is no reason for FEMA to duplicate efforts and delay funding.
- B. Include any biological studies that have information on wildlife and native vegetation.
- C. All projects must be evaluated to determine if any endangered or threatened species may be affected. If it is determined that an endangered species which could or are known to exist in the project area, further study and evaluation will be required. This additional effort may include formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the preparation of a Biological Assessment. The level of involvement with the endangered species process can vary widely according to the project proposal. Identification of endangered species in the beginning of the environmental process will help expedite the review.
- D. If the answer is yes, please indicate who supports and who opposes the project and the main reasons for support or opposition.
- E. Please indicate if additional information is included and where. Information could be any CEQA, NEPA, USACE, NRCS, biological, consultation, permit application, or other environmental documents related to the project, site, or area.

# Environmental Review

Attach detailed information as necessary

A. Are there any completed environmental documents, consultations, or permit applications related to project, site or area? Yes ☐ No ☐  
Dates of Studies \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, attach a copy.

B. Are there any biological studies completed in or around the project area? Yes ☐  
No ☐ If yes, attach a copy.

C. Does the project area contain any endangered species? Yes ☐ No ☐

D. Is there potential for controversy? Yes ☐ No ☐ Explain:

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# Environmental Checklist

**Complete the following checklist. Answers must take into account the action involved, including off-site, on-site, cumulative and component level, indirect and direct, including construction and operational impacts.**

Circle the appropriate answer for each of the following statements.

- (P) **Potentially Significant Impact** - if there is evidence project will have a significant environmental impact.
- (M) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigation Incorporated** - when mitigation measure reduces the impact from a "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact."
- (L) **Less Than Significant Impact** - if there is evidence that project will have a small environmental impact.
- (N) **No Impact** - if there is evidence of no environmental impact, or item does not apply to the project.

Attach an explanation for each (P) circled

## **Land Use and Planning** Would the proposal:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Conflict with general plan designation or zoning?   | P | M | L | N |
| 2. Conflict with applicable environmental plans or policies adopted by agencies who have jurisdiction over the project?            | P | M | L | N |
| 3. Be incompatible with existing land use in the vicinity?   | P | M | L | N |
| 4. Affect agricultural resource/operations from incompatible land, impacts to soils or farmlands, or impact from incompatible use? | P | M | L | N |
| 5. Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community, including a low-income or minority community?           | P | M | L | N |

## **Population and Housing** Would the proposal:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6. Cumulatively exceed regional or local population projections?  | P | M | L | N |
| 7. Induce substantial growth, directly or indirectly, e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of infrastructure? | P | M | L | N |
| 8. Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?  | P | M | L | N |

## **Geologic Problems** Would the proposal result in or expose people to potential impacts involving:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 9. Fault rupture?  | P | M | L | N |
| 10. Seismic ground shaking?  | P | M | L | N |
| 11. Seismic ground failure, including liquefaction?  | P | M | L | N |
| 12. Seiche, tsunami or volcanic hazard?  | P | M | L | N |
| 13. Landslides or mudflows?  | P | M | L | N |
| 14. Erosion, changes in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading or fill? | P | M | L | N |
| 15. Subsidence of the land?  | P | M | L | N |
| 16. Expansive soils?   | P | M | L | N |
| 17. Unique geologic or physical features?  | P | M | L | N |

**Water** Would the proposal result in:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18. Change in absorption, drainage, or amount of surface runoff?  | P | M | L | N |
| 19. Expose people or property to flooding?  | P | M | L | N |
| 20. Discharge into surface waters or other alteration of surface water quality, e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?   | P | M | L | N |
| 21. Changes in the amount of surface water in any body?   | P | M | L | N |
| 22. Change currents, or course/direction of water movement?   | P | M | L | N |
| 23. Change the quantity of groundwater, through direct addition or withdrawal, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavation, or through loss of groundwater recharge capability? | P | M | L | N |
| 24. Alter direction, rate, flow, or quality of groundwater?   | P | M | L | N |
| 25. Substantial reduction in the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?   | P | M | L | N |

**Air Quality** Would the proposal:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 26. Violate air standard, contribute to existing or projected air quality violation? | P | M | L | N |
| 27. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutants?  | P | M | L | N |
| 28. Alter air movement, moisture, temperature, cause climate change?                 | P | M | L | N |
| 29. Create objectionable odors?  | P | M | L | N |

**Transportation / Circulation** Would the proposal result in:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30. Increased vehicle trips or traffic congestion?  | P | M | L | N |
| 31. Hazards from design, e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections, or incompatible uses? | P | M | L | N |
| 32. Inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?                                     | P | M | L | N |
| 33. Insufficient parking capacity on-site or off-site?  | P | M | L | N |
| 34. Hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists?  | P | M | L | N |
| 35. Conflict with policy supporting alternate transportation?                                 | P | M | L | N |
| 36. Rail, waterborne or air traffic impacts?  | P | M | L | N |

**Biological Resources** Would the proposal result in impacts to:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 37. Endangered, threatened, or rare species or habitats (including, but not limited to, plants, fish, insects, animals and birds)? | P | M | L | N |
| 38. Locally designated species, e.g., heritage trees?  | P | M | L | N |
| 39. Local natural communities (oak forest, coastal habitat)?   | P | M | L | N |
| 40. Wetland habitat, e.g., marsh, riparian, and vernal pool?   | P | M | L | N |
| 41. Wildlife dispersal or migration corridors?   | P | M | L | N |

**Energy and Mineral Resources** Would the proposal:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 42. Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?   | P | M | L | N |
| 43. Use nonrenewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner?   | P | M | L | N |
| 44. Result in the loss of availability of known mineral resource that would be of future value to region and residents of the state? | P | M | L | N |

**Hazards** Would the proposal involve:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 45. Risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substance?    | P | M | L | N |
| 46. Interference with emergency evacuation and/or response plan?       | P | M | L | N |
| 47. The creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?      | P | M | L | N |
| 48. Exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazard? | P | M | L | N |
| 49. Increased fire hazard in areas with brush, grass or trees?         | P | M | L | N |

**Noise** Would the proposal result in:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 50. Increases in existing noise levels?        | P | M | L | N |
| 51. Exposure of people to severe noise levels? | P | M | L | N |

**Public Services** Would the proposal affect or alter governmental services in any of the following areas:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 52. Fire protection?                                   | P | M | L | N |
| 53. Police protection?                                 | P | M | L | N |
| 54. Schools?   | P | M | L | N |
| 55. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads? | P | M | L | N |
| 56. Other governmental services?                       | P | M | L | N |

**Utilities and Service Systems** Would proposal cause a need for new systems or supplies, or substantial alterations to any of the following utilities or services:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57. Power or natural gas?   | P | M | L | N |
| 58. Communications systems?                                       | P | M | L | N |
| 59. Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities? | P | M | L | N |
| 60. Sewer or septic tanks?  | P | M | L | N |
| 61. Stormwater drainage?  | P | M | L | N |
| 62. Solid waste disposal?   | P | M | L | N |
| 63. Local or regional water supplies?                             | P | M | L | N |

**Aesthetics** Would the proposal:

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 64. Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?       | P | M | L | N |
| 65. Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect? | P | M | L | N |
| 66. Create light or glare?                         | P | M | L | N |

**Cultural Resources** Would the proposal:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67. Disturb paleontological resources?                      | P | M | L | N |
| 68. Disturb archaeological resources?                       | P | M | L | N |
| 69. Affect historical resources?                            | P | M | L | N |
| 70. Cause change which would affect ethnic cultural values? | P | M | L | N |
| 71. Restrict existing religious/sacred use in impact area?  | P | M | L | N |

**Recreation** Would the proposal:

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 72. Increase demand for neighborhood parks or other facilities? | P | M | L | N |
| 73. Affect existing recreational opportunities?                 | P | M | L | N |

**Mandatory Findings of Significance**

- |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| 74. Does project have potential to degrade quality of the environment, reduce habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustain levels, threaten a plant or animal community, reduce number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | P | M | L | N |
| 75. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?  | P | M | L | N |
| 76. Does project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (i.e., that incremental effects of a project are considerable when in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)  | P | M | L | N |

77. Does the project have adverse environmental effects which will effect human beings, either directly or indirectly?

**P M L N**

Remember to attach an explanation for each (P) circled

## **Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands:**

*Hazard mitigation projects must be evaluated for their potential impact on floodplains or wetlands. If your project has an impact, use the following eight-step decision-making process as a guide (see 44 CFR 9.6 for specific information). As you prepare your application, keep these steps in mind:*

- Determine whether the proposed action is in the 100- or 500-year floodplain.
- Notify and involve the public.
- Identify and evaluate alternatives.
- Identify the impacts resulting from the proposed action.
- Minimize potential adverse impacts to and restore the natural and beneficial value of floodplains and wetlands.
- Reevaluate to determine if the proposed action is practical in light of other alternatives.
- Provide the public with the finding(s).
- Review implementation criteria to ensure that the requirements of the Executive Orders are met.
- EO 11988, Floodplain Management, (May 24, 1977) directs all federal agencies to avoid the long-and short-term adverse impacts associated with the modifications of floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.
- EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands, (May 24, 1977) directs all federal agencies to refrain from assisting in or giving financial support to projects which encroach upon public or private wetlands unless the agency determines that there are no practicable alternatives to such construction and that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands which may result from such use.

# Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands

***Hazard mitigation projects must be evaluated for potential impact on floodplains or wetlands.***

Attach additional information as necessary

A. Is the project in or near a wetland, swamp, marsh, etc. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ If yes, explain:

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Answer the following questions using FIS and FIRM information:

B. Is the project in: 100-year floodplain? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

500-year floodplain? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

A floodway? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ Coastal high-hazard area? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

C. Does the project support development in a floodplain? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ If yes, explain:

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If you answered yes to **any of the above** Floodplain Management questions complete the rest of this section. If you answered no to all of the above questions, go on to the next section.

D. Circle type of land use upstream and downstream:

Pasture/cropland (sparse development)

**Upstream**

**Downstream**

Forest/desert (undeveloped)

**Upstream**

**Downstream**

Urban (developed)

**Upstream**

**Downstream**

Wetland (marsh or sloughs)

**Upstream**

**Downstream**

E. Does the project have an impact (positive or negative) on the wetland? **Yes** ☐ **No**

☐ If yes, explain:

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F. Floodplain Manager

Who is the local floodplain manager? \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## Historical Review Checklist:

Historical Review was designed to ensure that historic properties are considered during Federal project planning and execution. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966(NHPA) assures that Federal agencies "take into account" the effects of the project on historic properties. Historic Property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register. This term includes, for the purposes of these regulations (36 CFR part 800), artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term "eligible for inclusion in the National Register" includes both properties formally determined as such by the Secretary of the Interior and all other properties that meet National register listing criteria.

- A. If a building is fifty years old, this indicates to FEMA that the building may be on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Building construction dates can be found in Metro Scan, Multiple Listing Service (MLS), Title Searches, Building Permits and/or the County Appraiser.
- B. Will the proposed project have an adverse influence or change to characteristics of the historic property's in the project area?
- C. Is the proposed project going to adversely effect the historic district? Historic districts information can be found through local historic groups, societies, and/or the State Historic Preservation Office. Local historic districts could be on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; this information can be found by local historic groups, societies, and/or the State Historic Preservation Office.
- D. Is the project breaking new ground or increasing the depth of excavation or beyond the original width?
- E. Is the project outside previously disturbed soil?
- F. Does the project area contain any prehistoric, historic, archeological or cultural resources? Local cultural or archeological resources can be researched by a licensed archeologist in Archeological Information Center(AIC). Additional information can also be found in local historic groups, societies and/or the State Historic Preservation Office.
- G. For structures less than fifty years old, provide one color photograph from the front. For structures greater than fifty years old, provide four color photographs: two corner views showing two sides of the structure, one view each from up and down the street.
- H. Please include any AIC searches or other documents related to historical properties in the project area.